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Fourth Preliminary Amendment

SUB
E2
241. (New) The oligoribonucleotide of claim 241, wherein said 3' overhang is a single nucleotide overhang.

242. (New) The oligoribonucleotide of claim 241, wherein said oligoribonucleotide is 21 or 23 nucleotides in length.

SUB
E4
243. (New) A composition comprising an oligoribonucleotide according to claim 221.

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244. (New) The composition of claim 243, further comprising a second oligoribonucleotide, wherein said second oligoribonucleotide differs in sequence from said oligoribonucleotide.

245. (New) The mammalian cell of claim 232, wherein said dsRNA is modified so as to be resistant to RNA degradation.

246. (New) The mammalian cell of claim 232, wherein said dsRNA comprises a 3' overhang.

247. (New) The mammalian cell of claim 232, wherein said 3' overhang is a single nucleotide overhang.

REMARKS

Support for the newly added claims is as follows:

Claims 239 and 245 refer to "wherein said dsRNA is modified so as to be resistant to RNA degradation". Support for this claim is found at page 12, lines 22-30 of the above-referenced patent application:

"In order to remove these ssRNA contaminants, the reactions were treated, after hybridization, with the single- strand- specific ribonucleases bovine pancreatic RNase A and Aspergillus oryzae RNase T1. RNase A is an endoribonuclease which is specific for pyrimidines. RNase T1 is an endoribonuclease which preferentially cleaves at the 3' side of guanosines."